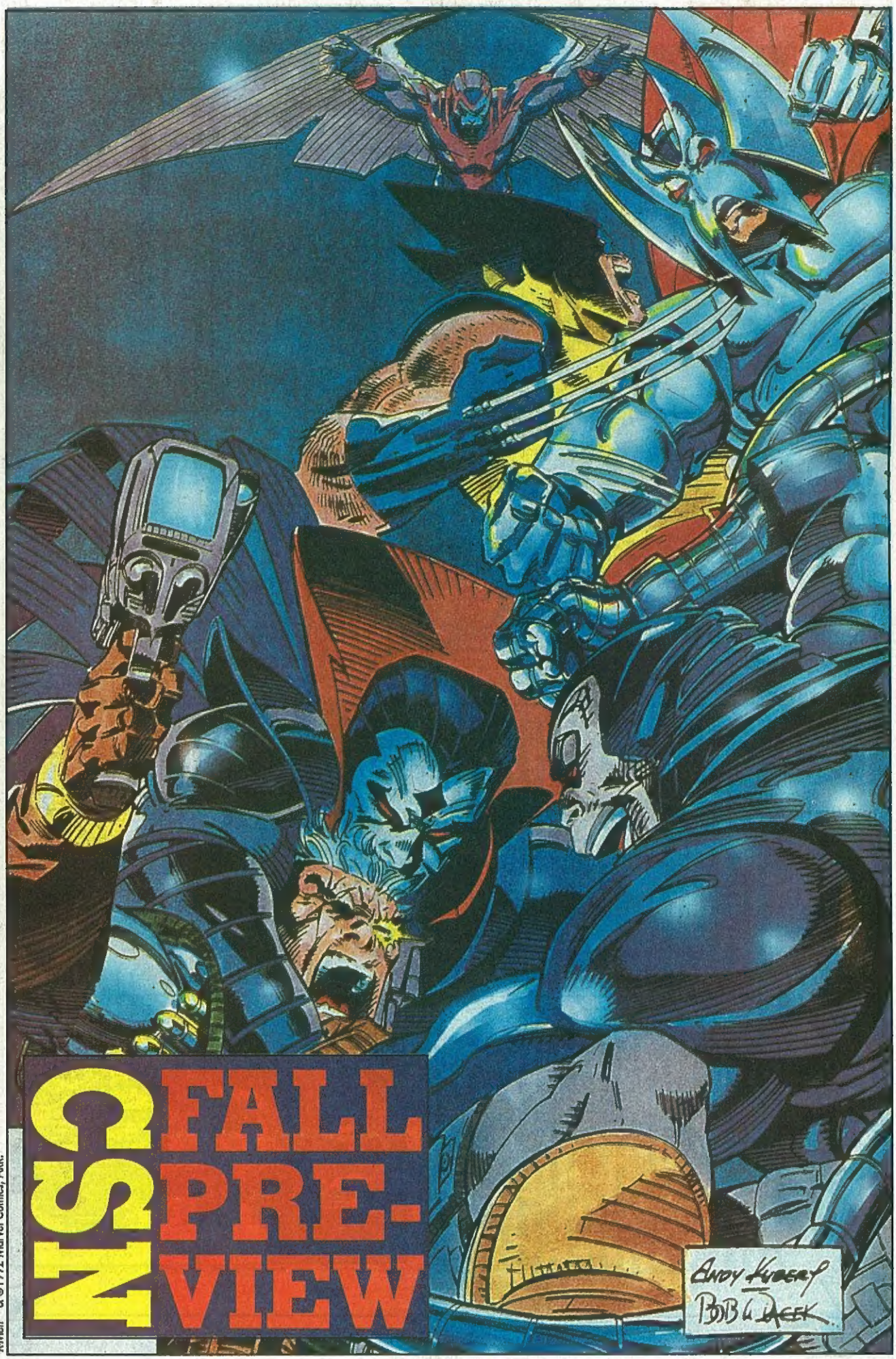

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COMIC SHOP NEWS 1992

FALL PREVIEW

Welcome to the ***CSN Fall Preview***; there are hundreds of exciting new comics featured in these pages, as well as graphic novels, trade paperbacks, hardcover collections, and comics-related trading cards. Our goal is to make you an informed collector: if you know what to look for and when it's due out, then you can ensure that you don't miss a favorite title from any of the dozens of publishers with books slated for fall release.

Naturally, with the growing number of comics publishers and the increasing number of titles, the ***CSN Fall Preview*** can't tell you what's happening in *every* title for the next three months; that would take hundreds of pages. Instead, we have tried to spotlight the most intriguing exciting, and desirable new releases from a wide range of publishers. For more detailed information, we urge you to ask the folks at your local comic shop for your own weekly copy of ***Comic Shop News***, which features advance news, reviews, interviews, hot picks, and more.

And now, let's see what's in store for the fall!

Aardvark-Vanaheim

Cerebus #163 kicks off a twelve-part storyline, "Mothers & Daughters—Women," which focuses on the differences between matriarchal mothers and their revolutionary daughters; a face-to-face confrontation between Cirin and Astoria highlights the twelve-part storyline. *(Oct-Nov, $2.25)*

Jaka's Story, the best story to appear thus far in ***Cerebus,*** is slated for trade paperback treatment this fall. Dave Sim has never been more on-target with his characterization, plotlines, or satire. This is a massive doorstop of a book that can bet be enjoyed in a single reading, so set aside some time for it. *(September, $25)*

AC

Can you hear the THUNDER in the distance? Perhaps it's THUNDER Agent Len Brown, a.,k.a. Dynamo, who is returning in an original three-issue limited series, ***Dark Dynamo,*** from AC. Black, Nadeau, and Heike bring back Len Brown, who had retired his THUNDER power-belt when he was told that it could either kill him or drive him insane. Since he's been diagnosed with terminal cancer, though, he figure he has nothing to lose when Dr. Clark Gibson calls on him to return to action as a new operative, Dark Dynamo. *(Nov, $2.95)*

Adventure

Merlin returns in a second solo miniseries entitled (appropriately enough) ***Merlin;*** this time, the legendary sorcerer gives in to the pleas of the lovely Rhiannon and uses his sorcery to save her lover, Tryon. Once he recognizes Tryon's Otherworldliness, Merlin joins the pair on their journey, defending Tryon against the Druids who intend to sacrifice him to their god. *(Oct-Nov, $2.50)*

Get ready for an invasion of "cute" monsters in ***Monster Posse***, a four issue miniseries by Greg Boone. The four alien monsters skip school and head to Earth, where they discover that life on New York's city streets is more menacing than they ever imagined. The situation gets worse, though, when a robot truant officer comes to Earth to bring the Monster Posse back to their homeworld... *(Oct-Nov, $2.50)*

Pendulum is a new series by Drury and Slampyak...or is it an old series? That's the quandary that the storyline must deal with: Dr. Hildegaard Row has been infected with his own Paroxysmal Atemporal Rapid Aging virus, which causes him to gain or lose several years of age almost instantaneously. *(Nov, $2.50)*

Martin Powell and Seppo Makinen, responsible for the best Sherlock Holmes comics produced in the past decade, return to the archetypal detective in ***Sherlock Holmes: Return of the Devil.*** As the title suggests, Holmes finds himself up against an adversary who some say is the devil himself...but Holmes thinks that it just might be the devilish work of his nemesis Moriarty... *(Sept-Nov, $2.50@)*

Antarctic

A-OK #1 by Edward Pun is a ***Ninja High School*** spin-off—but don't expect to see the usual ***Ninja High School*** gang in its pages. While its set in the NHS universe, it takes place in a school quite different from Quagmire. Maydale High in Newland, Washington, has a new student; his name is Paul, and he's come to Earth from Xandore in search of a wife. *(Sept-Nov, $2.50)*

Speaking of ***Ninja High School,*** Antarctic will offer a new ***Ninja High School 1992 Yearbook*** this fall; once again, this 64-page volume will offer an assortment of NHS stories by a variety of creators; this time around, Antarctic is adding an eight-page full color section. *(OCt, $3.95)*

Archie

Here's a must-have for anyone who can appreciate anything more than superhero

comics: ***Archie Americana Series: Best of the 50's*** is a 96-page volume featuring some of the best Archie tales from the decade most closely associated with the Riverdale Gang. Archie Comics has diligently restored these pages, recoloring them while remaining true to the source material. *(Oct, $8.95)*

From videogame to comic book, here comes Sonic the Hedgehog! Sonic is the defender of everything fun—and in his first appearance in ***Sonic the Hedgehog #0***, he has to stop Dr. Robotnik, who has outlawed all entertainment. *(Oct, $1.25)*

TMNT Presents is a new series that will consist of three-issue story arcs focusing on the individual Turtles and their supporting cast. ***TMNT Presents #1: April O'Neill*** introduces a new storyline that brings April back to New York, where her life undergoes a series of shake-ups. *(Oct, $1.25)*

The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Sourcebook, a two-issue limited series, is just what the name implies: a sort of "who's who" listing for the Turtles and their supporting cast. *(Nov, $1.95)*

Here's a series straight out of an Old West Moo-seum... ***Wild West Cowboys of Moo Mesa*** is a funny-animal Western series that ties in with an ABC Saturday morning cartoon series. A strange meteor has metamorphosed the animal inhabitants of Moo Mesa into Wild West archetypes; and the Mesa is under the protection of Moo Montana and his deputies Dakota Duke and the Colorado Kid. *(Sept-Nov, $1.25)*

Bugged Out

Roaches may be something you loathe in your kitchen, but writers seem to have a special affection for them, since they show up again and again in poetry, prose, and comics. ***The Bugged-Out Adventures of Ralfy Roach #1*** is the latest roach book; this series presents the misadventures of Ralfy Roach, master of fate. *(Oct, $2.95)*

Caliber

Dave Sim and Dale Keown collaborating on a cover? That's what you'll find on the front of ***Ali Baba: Scourge of the Desert #1,*** a new series by Waley, Darrigo, LeBlanc, and Kasman. Each issue of the series will feature a self-contained story starring the hero of one of the best known adventures from ***A Thousand And One Arabian Nights.*** Sim also supplies the introduction to the series, explaining his brief involvement with the project in its early days. *(Nov, $3.50)*

He aggravated you in Fringe, but he'll drive you crazy—in the nicest way, of course— in ***Attitude Lad #1***. In each issue, Attitude Lad tries his best to project the image of an insightful 90's kind of guy...but of course, we know he isn't going to be successful... *(Nov, $2.95)*

Joe Sinn is a high-tech futuristic cyberpunkish story of elecro-chem augmenters, video autlaws, and sensuality; its hero is an enhanced mercenary who not only is fighting for a cause, but he has a personal score to settle as well. Superhero meets cyberpunk in this new limited series. *(Sept-Nov, $2.95)*

Marauder, a new series from Silverline Studios, is the story of a robbery gone wrong; one thief is left for dead, and his partner vows revenge against the man responsible. That man turns out to be Judas Rathbone, a ruthless criminal whose thievery is carried on on an international scale...and he's accustomed to "removing" any obstacles to his plans. *(Oct-Nov, $2.50)*

The Saga of the Realm is a new series that

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reprints the entire ***Realm*** storyline in chronological order, paving the way for an upcoming new ***Realm*** series. The first issue reprints the original Guy Davis 1985 comic that first transported four teenagers to the land of ***The Realm***. *(Oct, $2.50)*

Comic Images

Upcoming card releases from CI include ***Punisher: Guts and Gunpowder Trading Cards,*** featuring the usual prism cards as well as special scratch-and-sniff gunpowder-scented cards *(Sep, $1/pack)*; ***Unity Trading Cards,*** which tell the story of the Valiant crossover story arc in a 90-card series complete with Chromium Cards featuring the Valiant rookies *(Oct, $1/pack)*; ***Shadowhawk Trading Cards***, featuring 90 cards plus six prism cards *(Nov, $1/pack)*; and ***Silver Surfer All-Prism Trading Cards,*** a 72-card series that features *nothing but prism cards! (Nov, $2.50/pack)*

Comic Zone

Comic Wars takes the "war" between comics publishers to its illogical extreme as the Big Two, Major Comics & Violence Comics, actually declare war on one another in their struggle for comic book supremacy. Gertler and Stimson poke fun at virtually every major publisher and marketing gimmick in this offbeat book. *(Oct, $2.95)*

Dark Horse

This fall, Andrew Vacchs and a variety of creators offer comics fans ***Another Chance To Get It Right***. This 64-page hardcover deals with the issue that serves as a connecting theme in all of Vacchs' work: child abuse. ***Another Chance To Get It Right*** is a prose-poem essay about the possibilities and limitations of childhood; the seven vignettes are illustrated by Timothy Bradstreet, Paul Chadwick, Geof Darrow, Rick Geary, Gary Gianni, Dave Gibbons, and Warren Pleece. *(Nov, $14.95)*

Dark Horse takes a swing at the sports-comics market with ***Baseball Greats #1: The Jimmy Piersall Story***. This fully authorized biography features the story of the great Boston Red Sox outfielder; it's the first in a series of fully authorized biographies prepared with the assistance of Piersall himself, who is acting as Dark Horse's director of sports marketing.. Each issue comes with specially designed baseball cards, and random issues will feature autographed cards. *(Oct, $2.95)*

Remember ***The Blue Witch of Oz***? That was the fifth Oz graphic novel by Eric Shanower, originally announced by First Comics as an early 1990 release. Of course, First went out of the comics business, and the book has been in limbo since then—until Dark Horse rescued it and added it to their fall schedule, that is. The 48-page graphic novel sends Dorothy on a quest to find and rescue the Good Witch of the East. *(Oct, $9.95)*

Doctor Giggles is all set to cut up in his own limited series this fall; you've already seen his medical misadventures in ***Dark Horse Presents,*** so you know the sort of hippocratic hellishness he can create. ***Doctor Giggles #1*** adapts the upcoming film from Largo and Dark Horse Entertainment. *(Oct-Nov, $2.50)*

How about a little ***Droll*** reading? ***Don Martin's Droll Book*** is a 128-page collection of comics work by former Mad-man Don Martin; much of what's here is culled from his comic strip ***The Nutheads,*** but some of it is material that has never been seen in the US. Dark Horse is issuing the book in a standard trade paperback edition as well as a limited edition hardcover. *(Nov, $9.95/$39.95)*

It can't be a lean season for comics...not when the Fat Fury is back! Herbie returns in a full-color series that combines reprints and original stories by a variety of popular creators. ***Herbie #1*** features two Ogden Whitney classics and a new eight-pager by John Byrne. *(Sept-Nov, $2.50)*

The Mask is back in a four-issue limited series, ***The Mask Returns***—but this time, the wearer of the Mask is a criminal. If you thought the Mask was violent before, wait 'til you see what happens when a bad guy is behind it all!... *(Sept-Nov, $2.50)*

Orion offers a metaphysical look at the future through the eyes of creator Masamune Shirow, best known for his series ***Appleseed.*** In this six-issue miniseries, the universe nears collapse as a plan to wipe out all negative karma goes awry; only Master Fuzen seems to know what to do to prevent the end of everything. *(Sep-Nov, $3.95)*

Last winter, it was ***Batman Vs. Predator.*** This fall, the Predators are back to challenge another hero... and this time it's the stalwart Valiant defender of 4001, Magnus Robot Fighter, who has to deal with the challenge in ***Predator Vs. Magnus Robot Fighter***, a two-issue limited series jointly published by Dark Horse and Valiant. A Predator comes to the NorthAm complex to find a prized trophy—the X-O Manowar helmet—but Magnus is determined that this is one trophy the Predator will have to do without. *(Oct-Nov, $2.95)*

Primal #1 introduces a four-issue limited series by *Clive Barker, Dan Chichester,* and *John Saltzgaber* that picks up where the graphic novel left off. The Riven are determined to restore primal fear to humanity once again—and Myde the Riven's return to old Massachusetts seems to be accomplishing that goal quite well... *(Oct, $2.95)*

RoboCop the criminal? That's apparently the case in ***RoboCop: Prime Suspect***, when one of his most outspoken critics is found dead... gunned down by RoboCop's own weapon. ***RoboCop: Prime Suspect***, a one-shot by Arcudi, Leon, and Albrecht, is the first of a series of RoboCop projects from Dark Horse. *(Oct, $2.50)*

Signal To Noise, the acclaimed graphic novel by creators Neil Gaiman and Dave McKean, has thus far been available only to British fans. Dark Horse will release an American edition of this sophisticated graphic novel this fall, though, which is sure to please the many fans of these two top talents. ***Signal To Noise*** is the story of a filmmaker dying of cancer; since his disease doesn't afford him the opportunity to make the film of his dreams, he begins to make his ultimate film in his mind instead. *(Oct, $11.95)*

The Terminator: Endgame is just what the title implies: an end to the Dark Horse Terminator storyline that has run through a variety of series. James Robinson and Jackson Guice present the final story, a real smash-em-up that brings a Terminator back in time to prevent the birth of John Connor...just as Sarah Connor goes into labor! *(Sep-Nov, $2.50)*

Dark Horse trade paperbacks include ***Aliens: Genocide***, collecting the Arcudi-Willis-Story miniseries that stars more Aliens than any artist should ever have to draw *(Nov, $13.95)*; Sin City, a massive 208-page noir paperback collecting Frank Miller's compelling story of love, murder, and vengeance ***(Nov, $15)***;

Dark Horse is also increasing its output of three-dimensional figures, adding both cold-cast porcelain statues and vinyl model kits to its line. The ***King Kong Vinyl Figure Kit***, sculpted by Randy Bowen, features the mighty Kong in a 16" high quality vinyl casting *(Sept, $119.95)*; ***The Mask Cold Cast Figure Kit,*** featuring the ultraviolent Mask armed with two of his favorite weapons—an assault rifle and a cream pie *(Oct, $149.95)*; and the ***Predator 2 Vinyl Figure Kit***, one of three different planned Predator kits featuring interlocking bases. *(Oct, $44.95)*;

Dark Zulu Lies

Nabil Hage's latest creation is ***Zwanna, Son of Zulu***; it presents the story of the great grandson of a Zulu king. His family has since fallen out of power, his father was ruthlessly killed by a close friend, his country is in the throes of civil war, and he is exiled to America—but Zwanna isn't giving up... *(Oct, $2.15)*

DC

By the time you read this, ***Batman*** will already be a daily Fox animated series. Inspired by the wildly favorable initial fan response to the cartoon, DC is launching a ***Batman Adventures*** series that captures the look and feel of the new cartoon. All the classic villains are here, along with well-crafted stories that will satisfy Batman fans of all ages. *(Sep-Nov, $1.25)*

Is there really a Batman, or is the Darknight Detective merely a figment of an alcoholic Bruce Wayne's imagination? That's the question posed by Bryan Talbot in ***Batman: Legends of the Dark Knight #***s 39-40. It's a story that harkens back to classic Batman tales of three decades ago, but with modern B atman sensibilities. *(Sep-Oct, $1.75)* ***Batman: Legends of the Dark Knight #41*** casts Alfred in the role of hero when Batman is captured by vampires. This book also serves as an introduction for a new superhero/horror series, ***Scarlett,*** that also debuts this fall. Created by Wilson, Joyner, and Fern, Scarlett is the story of a teenager whose life is turned inside out when she becomes a suspect in her parents' murder. To prove her own innocence, she becomes Scarlett Redeemer, enemy of the undead. *(Nov, $1.75)*

Batman and Green Arrow reunite in ***The Poison Tomorrow,*** hoping to track down

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a deadly virus before it claims thousands of victims—including the Black Canary, who has become infected. What they discover, though, is that there are some who want the plague to continue so that they can profit from it. Denny O'Neil, responsible for many great Batman stories in the past, writes this prestige-format one-shot; he's joined by artists Mike Netzer and Joe Rubinstein. *(Sep, $5.95)*

DC's Elseworlds projects have presented a Victorian Batman, a vampire Batman, and a futuristic Batman; now it's time for a Civil War Batman. ***Batman: The Blue, The Grey, and The Bat,*** a 64-page prestige-format oneshot by Elliott Maggin, Alan Weiss, and Jose Luis Garcia-Lopez, presents a vision of Batman as a hero fighting for the Union in the Civil War; the story also includes such period characters as Samuel Clemens and Wild Bill Hickock. *(Nov, $5.95)*

Batman: Birth of the Demon, created by Dennis O'Neil and Norm Breyfogle, is a hardcover graphic novel that reveals the never-before-published origin of Batman's nemesis Ra's al Ghul...but will Batman be able to uncover the whole story before he dies of radiation poisoning?... *(Dec, $24.95)*

After the overwhelmingly positive response to ***Black Canary***'s miniseries, DC had no choice but to give her an ongoing series. ***Black Canary #1*** deubts this fall, courtesy of Sarah Byam, Trevor VonEeden, and Bob Smith; the first storyline revolves around a poll-fixing scheme gone too far. *(Nov, $1.75)*

One of the original Blackhawks dies in ***Blackhawk Special #1,*** and Blackhawk is out for vengeance. His quest soon involves him in a complex plot that ranges from the assassination of JFK to the fall of Saigon. *(Nov, $3.50)*

Eclipso may have been unsuccessful in his summer scheme to transform the world into a planet of Eclipsos, but that doesn't mean that he's no longer a threat to the DC Universe. Quite the contrary, he will continue to menace the earth on a monthly basis in the ongoing ***Eclipso*** series, written by Keith Giffen and Robert Loren Fleming and illustrated by Bart Sears and Mark Pennington (the same team responsible for the two ***Darkness Within Specials***). *(Sep-Nov, $1.25)*

"Gorilla My Dreams" is the song that Congo Bill is singing in ***Congorilla #1***, courtesy of Steve Englehart, Neil Vokes, and Jay Geldhof. Janu, Congo Bill's former sidekick, has traded bodies with Congo Bill, trapping him in Janu's broken and battered body while Janu's mind inhabits the Golden Gorilla, using the mighty simian's strength for evil purposes. Congo Bill wants the body back... but someone else wants Janu dead!... *(Sep-Nov, $1.75)*

Deadman returns in a new miniseries by Mike Baron and Kelley Jones. In ***Deadman: Exorcism,*** Boston Brand has gone from driven hero to mischievous spirit that haunts an abandoned rural New England church. His harmless but cruel pranks inadvertently release a much more deadly supernatural menace, though, and the Phantom Stranger, Madam Waxahatchie and a Boston psychiatrist must find a way to reach Deadman through his own madness to enlist his aid. *(Oct-Nov, $4.95)*

Robin fans will have to have ***Detective Comics*** #s 652 and 653; this is a two-part tale that guest-stars the Huntress. So what's the Robin tie-in? Well, the Huntress joins forces with Robin in the upcoming **Robin III** series, due out later this fall. *(Sep-Oct, $1.25)*

Green Lantern: Ganthet's Tale is a cosmic story by two talents who have more than a little experience with cosmic stories: science fiction author Larry Niven and comics creator John Byrne. Together, they present a marvelous Green Lantern tale that reveals the true origin of the Green Lantern Corps... and the threatening nature of the universe's impending destruction. It's up to Green Lantern and a Guardian named Ganthet to stop the end of everything. *(Sep, $5.95)*

Remember ***Lobo's Back,*** the series that got off to a rousing start last spring, only to grind to a sudden halt in early summer? Well, if everything goes well on Simon Bisley's end, we'll get to see the final two issues of this series this fall. Of course, DC hasn't let the delays on this series stop their Lobo plans; ***Lobo: Infanticide*** continues throughout the fall, courtesy of Keith Giffen, who's handling both the story *and* the art. *(Sep-Nov, $1.50)*

Robin III: Cry of the Huntress pits Robin and the Huntress against Russian gangs in a struggle for control of the Gotham Underworld. This miniseries by Chuck Dixon, Tom Lyle, and Bob Smith features a special "movement-enhanced" cover that is unlike anything ever seen in comics before; fans on a budget can enjoy the same comic with a standard-format cover. If you want to meet the Huntress prior to her reappearance in this miniseries, then back up to the listing on Detective Comics... *(Nov-Dec, $2.50/$1.50)*

...And while we're on the subject of Robin, how about a **Elseworlds** story featuring an alternative version of Batman's sidekick? In ***Robin 3000***, Byron Preiss and P. Craig Russell introduce a future Robin who is forced to fly solo when the Batman of the year 3000 is killed; Robin vows to continue his mentor's struggle against the conquest-minded Skulpt. This two-issue prestige-format miniseries is a co-production of DC Comics and Byron Preiss Visual Productions. *(Nov, $4.95)*

It's a great season for Captain Marvel fans. First, there's ***The Shazam! Archives Volume I***, a 208-page hardcover reprinting the classic C.C. Beck Captain Marvel adventures from ***Whiz Comics #2-15*** *(Sep, $49.95)*.

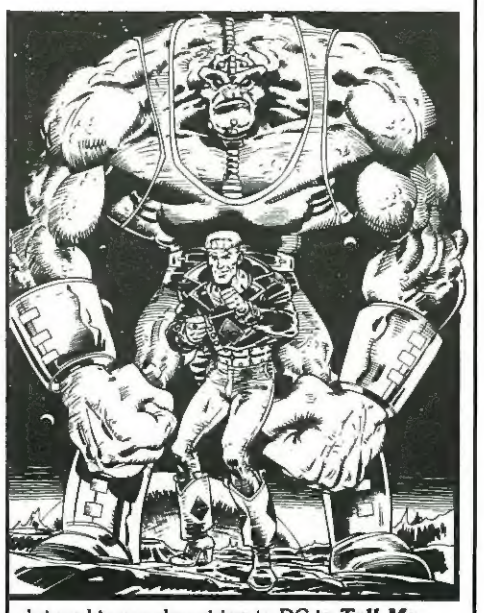
A month later, DC offers a ***Captain Marvel poster*** that also serves as a teaser for the upcoming Jerry Ordway graphic novel, ***The Power of Shazam*** *(Oct, $495)*.

If you remember ***Showcase,*** the try-out series that introduced the greatest concepts of the Silver Age, then you'll be glad to hear that the title will return this fall as ***Showcase '93***. The twelve-issue maxi-series spotlights major DC characters with stories executed by top talent as well as hot newcomers. The lead story in each issue will feature a character from the Batman Universe, beginning with Catwoman. *(Nov, $1.95)*

If there's anyone who deserves a glow-in-the-dark cover, it's DC's sepulchral hero ***The Spectre***—and that's just what he gets when the first issue of the new Spectre series debuts. John Ostrander and Tom Mandrake bring Jim Corrigan back into solo action—but their interpretation of the spectre owes more to Michael Fleischer's vengeful version from a decade ago than it does to the Spectre's previous incarnation (no pun intended). *(Oct, $1.95)*

Streets is an innovative three-issue limited series that ventures into the hardboiled. Each issue features a different storyline by a different artist, all connected by Jim Hudnall's scripts and a noir style. *(Oct-Nov, $4.95)*

Superman is about to go through a major change...namely, he's going to die! The tragic event takes place in ***Superman #75,*** but DC begins laying the framework for the storyline early this fall in every ***Superman*** family title, as well as in ***Justice League America.*** Doomsday is the villain who does the deadly deed...and the entire DC Universe mourns the fatal outcome. DC is releasing ***Superman #75*** in a regular edition and a collectors' edition that includes a black armband, a ***Daily Planet*** obituary, and more. Once the death issue appears in November, the ***Superman*** titles will feature a look at how Metropolis and the world react to the loss. This isn't just a trivial plot gimmick; the Superman creative teams stress that this is a long-lasting, major change in the status quo of the DC Universe. *(Sep-Nov, $1.25-$2.50)*



Swamp Thing celebrates its 125th issue with an old "friend": Anton Arcane, who manages to escape from Hell and return to the swamps to strike at Swamp Thing and Abby through their daughter, Tefé. Lots of other old Swamp Thing adversaries show up in this extra-long story by Collins, Eaton, and DeMulder. *(Oct, $2.95)*

Karl Edward Wagner, noted horror author and editor of The Year's Best Horror series, brings his macabre vision to DC in ***Tell Me Dark,*** a hardcover graphic novel that features a sophisticated storyline sure to appeal to fans of ***Sandman, Hellblazer,*** and other mature DC horror titles. ***Tell Me Dark*** is the story of a man haunted by a broken love affair; he soon crosses paths the woman he lost, only to find himself involved in a nightmarish mystery. Kent Williams supplies the art for this 80-page painted graphic novel. *(Nov, $29.95)*

Timber Wolf is one of two Legion spin-offs that feature future Legion members in the contemporary DC Universe. Timber Wolf soon joins forces with a group of offbeat superbeings as he discovers that the past is no more tranquil than his own "present." Al Gordon and Joe Phillips are the masterminds behind this high-impact series. *(Oct-Nov, $1.25)*

The Titans Sell Out Special #1 picks up where the "Total Chaos" storyline left off, bringing the Titans back to a world that doesn't seem to want them. Deathstroke is dead, Titans Island has been repossessed, and the Titans are wanted by the law... so they relocate to Los Angeles, where they become involved with a media tycoon who changes their image by rebuilding them as the cartoon sensation of the year, the Teeny Titans. *(Oct, $3.50)*

DC's trade paperback and hardcover releases for the year include ***Batman: Prey***, reprinting the Moench/Gulacy/Austin storyline from ***Batman: Legends of the Dark Knight #11-15*** *(Oct, $12.95)*;***Deathstroke the Terminator: Full Cycle,*** reprinting ***News Titans #70*** and ***Deathstroke*** #s 1-5 *(Sep, $12.95)*; ***Legion of Super-Heroes Archives Volume Two***, reprinting the Legion appearances from ***Adventure Comics*** #s 306-317 *(Nov, $39.95)*; ***Green Lantern Archives Volume One***, reprinting those marvelous John Broome-Gil Kane stories from ***Showcase*** #s 22-24 and ***Green Lantern*** #s 1-5 *(Nov, $39.95)*; ***The Essential Showcase Volume I: 1956-1959***, reprinting seminal stories starring The Flash, The Challengers of the Unknown, Adam Strange, and others *(Dec, $19.95)*; and ***World's Finest,*** reprinting the Dave Gibbons-Steve Rude-Karl Kesel miniseries, complete with new background material by Gibbons and Rude *(Nov, $19.95)*.

DC emerges from ***The Darkness Within*** with ***Valor*** this fall...and if you've been reading this storyline, you know that ***Valor*** is a familiar hero from the Legion of Super-Heroes' time who finds himself relocated to the modern DC universe. He's still hoping to stop Eclipso, with whom he has developed a bizarre mind-link, from carrying out his evil machinations. Robert Loren Fleming, writer

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of the ***Darkness Within*** storyline that spurred the new series, is joined by artists Mark Bright and Al Gordon (who is also writing and inking another Legion spin-off, ***Timber Wolf***). *(Sep-Nov, $1.25)*

If you're trying to keep up with the many changes, additions, and deletions in the DC Universe, then you'll consider ***Who's Who Update '93*** a must-have. Prepared in the same format as the recently-completed ***Who's Who*** series, the ***Update*** edition brings your ultimate DC reference series up to speed with the latest info. *(Nov, $5.95)*

Disney

Walt Disney Studios' big fall film is ***Aladdin,*** a star-studded piece based on the classic Arabian Nights tale. Bobbi Weiss and Xavi bring the film to comics in a 64-page prestige-format adaptation; Xavi is the artist who previously illustrated the Disney comics adaptation of ***The Little Mermaid. Aladdin*** will also be available in a less expensive standard-format adaptation. *(Sep, $4.95/$2.50)*

The Dinosaurs prove they're far from extinct insofar as comics are concerned when Disney brings the hit television series to comics in a new 48-page series featuring work by such talents as Jackson Guice, Joe Staton, Doug Murray, and Brian Garvey. *(Nov, $2.95)*

Eclectus Ltd.

Remember Cutey Bunny, Joshua Quagmire's anthropomorphic beauty? Well, after far too long a comics absence, she returns this fall in ***Joshua Quagmire's Cutey Bunny Pin-Up Special.*** It may not be the debut of a new ongoing series of Cutey Bunny adventures, but it's a start... *(Sep, $2.50)*

Eclipse

Straight from the pages of Eclipse's comic book adaptation come ***The Hobbit Trading Cards,*** a complete series of 36 painted cards in their own illustrated box. *(Oct, $9.95)*

The Life of Death is another Eclipse graphic novel based on a Clive Barker Books of Blood tale. The Fred Burke-Stewart Stanyard adaptation presents the story of a woman whose painful illness leads her to welcome death; rather than offer the respite of death, though, Death enters her body and uses her as a means to deliver his fatal touch. *(Sep, $8.95)*

Maybe we should have a separate listing for Image Comics parodies... Eclipse is one of many companies jumping on the Image bandwagon with ***Spitting Image #1,*** a spoof that pokes fun at the Image heroes, the Image Comics controversy, contemporary Marvel Comics, and more. *(Sep, $2.50)*

Trapped marks the first time any Dean R. Koontz story has been adapted to comics format; Gorman and Bilau offer a comics version of this quintessential Koontz tale about government experimentation, bizarre mutations, and innocent people trapped in a situation beyond their control. *(Oct, $22.95)*

Earlier this year, Eclipse released the very controversial ***True Crime Trading Cards,*** spotlighting some of the world's most infamous criminals as well as some of the best-known lawmen. This fall, Eclipse will release a ***True Crime II Trading Cards***, a new series prepared in the same format as the first; the initial 55 cards will spotlight *Guns and Gangsters*, while the latter 55 will focus on *Serial Killers and Mass Murderers*. *(Oct, $1.25/pack)* A month later, Eclipse adds a companion series, ***Crime & Punishment Trading Cards,*** which depict the stories behind ten infamous criminal trials in a 110-card series. *(Nov, $1.25/pack)* And if you missed out on the controversial original series of ***True Crime Trading Cards***, then you'll be glad to hear that Eclipse is releasing the entire card series as two prestige-format 64-page comic books, polybagged as a set. *(Nov, $9.95)*

Fantagraphics

The life story of a music legend is presented in ***Billie Holiday***, an offbeat graphic album by Jose Munoz and Carlos Sampayo. The story is told from the point of view of a jaded reporter looking at her life thirty years after her death—and from the point of view of Holiday herself, who offers her own interpretation of her tragic life. *(Oct, $7.95)*

The Book of Jim collects the best of Jim Woodring's cutting-edge comics work from the pages of ***Jim*** #s 1-4, along with several brand new item (including a full-color story) and selected highlights from Woodring's self-published mini-comics. *(Sep, $13.95)*

The early days of animation were much less pleasant than the final product might indicate; that's the first lesson that ***The Mishkin File*** teaches. It also chronicles the story of a man's decline as his creation begins to rule his life to such an extent that he loses control of both. Kim Deitch's story is a mixture of humanity, animation history, and roman a clef storytelling that should be a must-read for every fan of classic cartoons. *(Oct, $2.95)*

Fleetway-Quality

In the year 2109, most criminals find themselves sentenced to a lifetime of digging deep beneath the surface of North America. For a chosen few, though, the game of aero-ball offers a way out; ***The Harlem Heroes*** are a group of prisoners turned aeroball players who hope to use the game as their means to escape from their lifetime imprisonment. *(Oct-Nov, $1.95)*

The Judge Dredd Statue is just what it says: a handsome 5.75"-tall cold-cast resin figure of Mega-City One's most famous Judge. This is the first in a series of high-quality 3-D sculptures. *(Nov, $49.95)*

Young Death is the story of the notorious Judge Death, depicting just how he ended up the way he did. A tabloid reporter gets the exclusive interview rights to this offbeat tale—but interviewing Judge Death gives the term "deadline" a very different meaning... *(Oct, $2.95)*

Gladstone

Some of the best Christmas stories ever done in comics were created by Carl Barks for various Firestone giveaways in the 1940's. ***The Carl Barks Library of Donald Duck Christmas Stories In Color*** collects all five of those stories in one volume just in time for the holidays. *(Nov, $7.50)*

Harris

It seems like a number of publishers are doing comics about serial killers...but ***Twister,*** a new title from Hudnall and Koeb, depicts the man who stalks the serial killers themselves: Twister. Each issue of ***Twister*** will also feature "Most Wanted" trading cards depicting fictional serial killers created for this series. *(Nov, $2.95)*

Vampirella is back...and this time, she gets her own ongoing series! In the first issue, Vampi heads across Europe to track down the forces of Chaos—and her quest will lead her to Dracula. ***Vampirella*** #s 1-6 will also feature proof-of-purchase coupons that will be redeemable for a limited edition poster by Dave Stevens. *(Nov, $2.95)*

Hero Comics

Dark Passion is a new miniseries starring Rose, the red-haired psychic detective with a temper to match. Mark Beachum supplies the art for this story of a vampire who once promised Rose that she would give up her deadly appetites... but now she must ask Rose for a release from that promise. *(Oct-Nov, $3.50)*

Ianus

If you want to enjoy the entire Cybersuit Arkadyne storyline, then you'll want to add the ***Cybersuit Arkadyne Graphic Novel*** to your must-have list. This 192-page manga-sized volume reprints the first three issues of this manga-inspired sf series and adds the unpublished fourth, fifth, and sixth issues as well. *(Nov, $12.95)*

Image

Operation Urban Storm is a comic book with a purpose: all profits will be donated to the Rebuild L.A. Foundation. This special benefit book features work from Liefeld, Lee, McFarlane, Larsen, Portacio, Silvestri, Williams, Murray, Choi, Mychaels, and Valentino—virtually the entire Image crew!... *(Nov, $1.95)*

Dale Keown, former ace artist of ***The Incredible Hulk,*** makes his Image debut this fall with ***Pitt #1,*** the first issue of a new ongoing series starring a monstrous-looking alien who assumes the role of a superhero once he finds himself trapped on Earth. Unfortunately, the only person who can overcome his bestial appearance is Timmy, a small boy with whom he has a psychic link. *(Nov, $1.95)*

It's the crossover absolutely no one anticipated: ***Savage Dragon Vs. the Savage Megaton Man #1***, a co-creation of Erik Larsen & Don Simpson. There's no plot, no point...just oodles of action in this muscle-bound no-holds brawl. *(Nov, $1.95)*

If you ever saw the videotape ***Overkill,*** featuring a collaboration between Stan Lee, Rob Liefeld, and Todd McFarlane, then you know what to expect when Overkill makes his comics debut in ***Spawn #6.*** He's a villain who probably has trouble fitting through doors...but that doesn't stop him from becoming the mob's hired protector. His new target is Spawn, so you know that a fight is in the making... *(Oct, $1.95)*

Image's creators obviously have a sense of humor—otherwise, why would they created ***Splitting Image #1,*** a comic poking fun at Image Comics and its original seven creators. And who can do that with more insight than the Magnificent Seven themselves?... *(Nov, $1.95)*

The first Image comics hero, Supreme, makes his triumphant return in ***Supreme #1.*** What's that?... You haven't heard of Supreme? Well, that's because he left this world in 1940 to spend a half-century in space to "fulfill his greater destiny." He returns to a very different earth in the first issue of his own series—and no sooner does he arrive than he has a violent confrontation with Earth's new heroes, Youngblood. Rob Liefeld co-plots this new ongoing series, while Brian Murray does virtually everything else. *(Sep-Nov, $1.95)*

By definition, "wetwork" refers to a covert operation involving such close-quarters work that the operative is wet with the blood of his victims. With that definition in mind, you can imagine what you might expect to find in ***Wetworks #1***, the debut issue of a new series by While Portacio, Brandon Choi, and Scott Williams. Team 7 is the deadliest strike force in America...but they've never faced a menace like the Night Tribes and the Werenation, the creatures of nightmare. It's high-tech versus high-terror in this three-issue limited series. *(Oct-Nov, $1.95)*

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Innovation

Grace Kimball, the woman whose hunt for those who transformed her into a vampire was the focus of Vigil, returns in a new one-shot, ***Vigil: Return to Grace #1.*** This extra-length adventure takes Grace to sunny Acapulco... not exactly a vampire's favorite vacation spot!... *(Sep, $2.75)*

Kitchen Sink

The Acid Bath Case is a hardboiled detective story whose main character, Nat Slammer, is a midget cop investigating a very big case: the acid-bath serial killings of a number of people in their own homes. Stephen Walsh and Kellie Strom offer an off-beat look at America in the 1950's in this *noir*-style story. *(Oct, $4.95)*

Remember all the challenges and rites of passage that were such a vital part of adolescence? ***Blood Club*** presents just such an experience when Big Baby is sent to Camp Watakoma for the summer and tries to fit in; things go wrong, though, and Big Baby soon finds himself rejected by everyone except for the ghost of a boy who died there a decade before. ***Blood Club*** is the latest creation of Charles Burns, who is releasing the book in a softcover and signed hardcover edition. *(Nov, $5.95/$19.95)*

Kitchen Sink continues its Alex Raymond Flash Gordon reprint series with ***Flash Gordon Volume 5: Between Worlds at War*** *(Nov, $21.95/$34.95)*. And as the publisher nears the end of its definitive reprinting of all Alex Raymond Flash Gordon stories, it's only natural that they should look ahead to other Flash Gordon adventures by other creators. ***Austin Briggs' Flash Gordon Dailies Volume One,*** the debut book of a two-volume series, reprints two years of black-and-white work by Alex Raymond's assistant, who went on to become a very successful comic strip creator in his own right. *(Sep, $10.95)*

Invisible People Part 3: Mortal Combat is the final installment of Will Eisner's *Invisible People* graphic novel. This issue deals with a man caught in a power struggle between his mother and a woman to whom he is attracted; before long, the man realizes that he has little say in the outcome of this archetypal conflict. *(Oct, $3.95)*

Malibu

The Arrow ties in with the Protectors Universe; it's the story of a hero who's been rejected from the Protectors because he once took a human life. He drops out of the superhero biz for good, he thinks...but the villainous Dr.Sheldon forces him back in again. *(Oct, $1.95)*

The Ex-Mutants were one of Malibu's first comics successes—and this fall, after a few years in retirement, the Ex-Mutants are coming back with a vengeance. ***Ex-Mutants,*** set in the not-too-distant-future, tells the story of the few pure-strain humans left in a post-holocaust world filled with mutants. There's a Sega Genesis ***Ex-Mutants*** videogame in the works for late '92 release as well, so this is going to be a high-profile series. *(Nov, $1.95)*

It's uncommon that a spinoff surpasses the original work form which it is drawn, but that's the case with ***Ferret #1,*** a Protectors spin-off one-shot that is even more exciting and entertaining than the Protectors series. ***The Ferret #1,*** by Jones, Derenick, and Deodato, pits this Wolverine-like hero against the Purple Dragon Tong and their thrall, the former superhero the Iron Skull. *(Sep, $1.95)*

Brian Lumley's ***Necroscope*** takes readers beyond death...and now comics fans can take the trip as well, courtesy of Martin Powell and Daerick Gross. ***Necroscope*** is the story of Harry Keogh, a man with the ability to communicate with the dead. He's the only person who might be able to stop a Russian necroscope and his vampiric partner from attaining their goal of world domination. *(Oct-Nov, $2.95)*

The Protectors Handbook, assembled by Dan Danko, is a "Who's Who" for Protectors fans, answering crucial questions about the heroes' abilities, background, and more. ***The Protectors Handbook*** also features interviews with ***The Protectors'*** creative team. *(Oct, $2.50)*

Malibu continues its impressive Tarzan series of projects with ***Tarzan: The Beckoning*** , a seven-issue full-color limited series by Henning Kure and Tom Yeates. This is a story filled with classic Burroughsian elements—poachers, ivory, a hired assassin, and an African trickster god. *(Nov, $2.50)*

Marvel

A-1, the cutting-edge Dave Elliott-edited book from Atomeka Press, finds a new home at Marvel. Elliott has assembled the same caliber of creators for the Epic edition as he pulled together for the Atomeka editions (although, alas, there's no Alan Moore in here...). And even better, the price is lower than before... *(Oct-Nov, $4.95)*

Lots of people have yearned for more details on the origin of Darkhawk—including Darkhawk himself, who would just love to know the source of his powers and their true nature. Well, there's a five-part storyline beginning in ***Darkhawk #21*** that'll answer everyone's questions; it'll also feature a series of covers that join together to form a giant Darkhawk collage. *(Sep-Nov, $1.25)*

If Marvel gives you ***Death's Head II*** times two, is that Death's Head IV? You can ponder that question while you enjoy two *different* ***Death's Head II*** series: ***Death's Head II***, an ongoing title by Abnett, Sharp, Lanning, & Smith, kicks off with a guest appearance by the X-Men and a battle with Wolverine. ***Deaths' Head II/Killpower: Battletide***, a four-issue limited series, is a Contest-of-Champions-like extravaganza in which Death's Head II, Killpower, Captain America, the Hulk, Psylocke, Sabretooth, Wolverine, and other heroes and villains are transported to a deadly planet where war is a way of life. *(Oct-Nov, $1.75@)* ...What's that? You say you missed out on the original ***Death's Head*** series from a couple of years ago? Well, fret no more, for ***The Incomplete Death's Head***, a twelve-issue limited series reprinting that short-lived series (along with new material), is on the way! *(Nov, $2.95)*

Digitek, a Marvel UK series initially announced for summer release, joins the Marvel line-up this fall. This new painted comic by Tomlinson, Lanning, and Power features a brilliant scientist who is killed by enemies who hope to stop his experiments; death only slows him down briefly, though, because he is recreated by his own organic computer matrix as Digitek, a computer warrior. It's an exciting, high-tech series that ties in with the MysTECH storyline running through all the Marvel UK titles. *(Oct-Nov, $1.95)*

Dinosaurs is a great example of truth-in-labeling: the four-issue limited series studies the lifestyles and habits of the great prehistoric lizards. Each fully-painted issue features the work of a variety of comics creators, offering the most up-to-date information about dinosaurs and their environs. All four issues of the limited series are scheduled for simultaneous release, so you can read the whole series in one sitting. *(Oct, $4.95)*

Ghost Rider and Captain America join forces in ***Ghost Rider: Fear,*** a prestige-format one-shot by Howard Mackie, Lee Weeks, and Al Williamson. So what brings two such diverse heroes together? The all-new, deadlier-than-ever Scarecrow, that's what... *(Oct, $5.95)*

The fall is always the season for ***Marvel Masterworks;*** this year, the series of hardcover reprints kicks off with ***MM #20: Iron Man***, reprinting the classic stories from ***Tales of Suspense*** #s 39-50 *(Sep, $34.95)*; ***MM #21: Fantastic Four,*** reprinting ***FF*** #s 31-40 and ***Annual #2*** *(Oct, $34.95)*; and ***MM #22***, reprinting ***Amazing Spider-Man*** #s 41-50 and ***Annual #3*** *(Nov, $34.95)*.

Marvel has oodles of ***Marvel Milestone Edition*** reprints slated for the fall, including ***Amazing Spider-Man #1, Amazing Spider-Man #129, Fantastic Four #5, Iron Fist #14,*** and ***Iron Man #55***, each of which features the first appearance of popular Marvel characters. *(Oct-Nov, $2.95@)*

Fall is the time when everyone begins to roll out their Christmas-related projects, and Marvel is no exception. ***Marvel Superheroes 1992 Holiday Special*** is a star-studded 80-page comic starring some of Marvel's biggest heroes (including Spider-Man, the Incredible Hulk, and Wolverine) in holiday-theme stories by some of Marvel's most popular creators, including Peter David, Sam Kieth, Larry Hama, Michael Golden, Jim Starlin, and Ron Lim. *(Nov, $2.95)*

Metallic Memories is a new 96-page hardcover Moebius collection that serves as a companion volume to last year's ***Chaos.*** The book features art and short stories never before available in the US. *(Nov, $18.95)*

The final *Rise of the Midnight Sons* series debut, ***Nighstalkers,*** introduces a team of former vampire-hunters who have formed a detective agency, Borderline, dedicated to destroying anything supernatural. Like every debut issue in this series, ***Nightstalkers #1*** will feature a fold-out poster polybagged with each comic. *(Sep, $2.75)*

A lot of younger ***CSN*** readers have already headed back to school; well, the Punisher is right in there with them in ***Punisher Back To School Special #1.*** This one-shot by Dixon and McDaniel takes the Punisher into a high school, where he assumes the guise of a substitute gym teacher to shut down a gun-dealing gang operating out of the school. *(Sep, $2.95)* After a challenging assignment like that, a vacation might be in order...so the Punisher heads to New Orleans for Mardi Gras in ***Punisher: Die Hard In the Big Easy***, a bookshelf-format tale that features the Punisher's burial. Unfortunately for him, he isn't dead at the time... *(Nov, $4.95)* Finally, ***The Punisher Holiday Special*** is a pleasant Christmas tale that targets the Punisher for death when a young mob capo wants Frank Castle's corpse as his Christmas gift. *(Nov, $2.95)*

Happy Happy Joy Joy! ***Ren and Stimpy*** move from Nickelodeon to the comics rack in this new series by Slott and Kazaleh. Marvel promises that this comic will be just as socially incorrect as the animated series that inspired it; to prove their point, each copy of the first issue will be shipped with a special Ren or Stimpy "air fouler." *(Oct, $2.25; subsequent issues $1.25@)*

Silver Surfer #75 features another foil-embossed cover that insiders say will far surpass the cover for ***Silver Surfer #50;*** if you remember how quickly *that* one disappeared, then you'll be sure to latch onto this special issue as soon as it hits the stands. The extra-length story inside wraps up "The Herald Ordeal" storyline that's been running for the past few issues. *(Oct, $2.50)*

67 Seconds, a mature graphic novel by James Robinson and Steve Yeowell, is ma-

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ture in the best sense of the word: it features a storyline that encourages—perhaps even demands—thoughtful consideration at the same time that it entertains. It's a science-fictional near-future story of a female news reporter and the male photographer who works with her; gradually, their relationship becomes more than professional as the dangers they face bring them closer and closer together. *(Oct, $15.95)*

Slapstick #1 introduces an offbeat hero who looks like he stepped out a cartoon series—and he has powers to match his appearance! Since his body has been transformed into alien ectoplasm, it can be folded, spindled, and mutilated without suffering any damage... just like a Warner Bros. cartoon character! Even better, he can use his abilities to create objects out of thin air—objects ranging from hammers and guns to cream pies. ***Slapstick*** is produced by Len Kaminski, James Fry, and Terry Austin, and it proves that comic books can successfully merge action and humor. *(Sep-Nov, $1.25)*

Set in the time just prior to the collapse of the Soviet Union, ***Soviet Super Soldiers*** unites three distinctly different groups of Soviet superheroes into one fighting force under the control of a rogue branch of the KGB . If they refuse, then its *dos vidanya*, heroes... *(Sep, $2)*

Here's your chance to find out just what inside poop Stryfe has assembled concerning his enemies and his allies: ***Stryfe's Strike File #1*** features the mutant leaders secret files on the mutant heroes and villains in the Marvel Universe, as well as info about him and his plans for mutantkind. This book, which features a metallic ink cover, contains no ads. *(Nov, $1.75)*

Spidey fans who missed out on the first two Spider-Man hologram books last spring can pick up in affordable reprints this fall. The ***Web of Spider-Man #90*** and ***Spectacular Spider-Man #189*** reprints will be exactly like the first printings of each book except that they'll feature oversized gold holograms. *(Sep, $2.95@)*

Team Helix, a new four-issue limited series from Marvel UK, stars a team of five genetically-enhanced teenagers who have no idea who they really are. With the help of Wolverine, though, they eventually discover their true identities as they turn against MyS-TECH and strike out on their own. *(Nov, $1.75)*

Marvel trade paperback releases for the fall include ***Iron Man: The Many Armors of Iron Man***, featuring the origin stories for all the various Iron Man suits of armor *(Nov, $15.95)*;***Spider-Man: Origin of the Hobgoblin,*** reprinting the complete origin story of Spider-Man's macabre nemesis from over a half-dozen key issues of ***Amazing Spider-Man*** *(Sep, $14.95)*; ***X-Men: X-Tinction Agenda,*** which reprints the entire 224-page storyline from 1990, complete with an eye-catching cover designed to resemble the popular "wanted" poster used to promote the original series *(Oct, $19.95)*; ***X-Force & Spider-Man: Sabotage,*** reprinting the two-part crossover story by Fabian Nicieza, Rob Liefeld, and Todd McFarlane *(Nov, $6.95)*

TV series always premiere in the fall, so why shouldn't new Marvel Universes do the same thing? The Marvel Universe of 2099 debuts in four new series introduced on a one-a-month schedule beginning in September. ***Spider-Man 2099*** kicks off the Marvel world of tomorrow, courtesy of Peter David and Rick Leonardi. A new Spider-Man series, a new universe, and a foil-stamped cover—what a way to say goodbye to summer! *(Sep-Nov, $1.75)* ***Ravage 2099*** introduces a new hero in a series created and written by Stan Lee; Ravage is a former executive in an environmental protection agency who turns eco-vigilante when he discovers that the agency's corrupt leaders were actually in cahoots with the polluters *(Oct-Nov, $1.75)*. ***Doom 2099*** features the infamous Dr. Doom, still alive after more than a century...or is he? The world is a very different place a century from now, but Dr. Doom seems much the same. *(Nov, $1.75)* The last Marvel 2099 title, ***Punisher 2099***, actually debuts in the winter, so we'll tell you more about it in three months... but we *can* tell you that ***Punisher War Journal #50***, a special anniversary issue, features a sneak preview of ***Punisher 2099*** for those who can't wait. *(Nov, $2.50)*

Ghost Rider fans, get ready for Spirits of Venom! This four-part storyline, which begins in ***Web of Spider-Man #95*** and alternates between ***Web*** and ***Spirits of Vengeance*** for two months, puts Spider-Man, Ghost Rider, and John Blaze in the unusual position of protecting villains responsible for the deaths of innocents. In this case, it's Hag and Troll who need protecting—and it's Venom who intends on doing the avenging! This four-part series also guest-stars Demogoblin and Spidey's evil doppelganger. *(Oct-Nov, $1.25/$1.75)*

There's a really big crossover planned for the X-books this fall (perhaps we should just call it an X-over...). *X-Ecutioner's Song*, a twelve-parter pitting the X-Men, X-Force, and X-Factor against Stryfe, will run through all four X-books during September, October, and November. The battle grows out of the events of the summer-premiere ***Cable*** miniseries, and it promises to be the biggest mutant event of the year. Each installment of this twelve-issue crossover series will be polybagged and will include a bonus X-Men card available nowhere else. *(Sep-Nov, $1.50@)*

Fox is adding an ***X-Men*** animated series this fall... so it should be no surprise to anyone that Marvel is adding an ***X-Men: The Animated Series*** comic book to its line-up. The first issue is based on the animated pilot, which Marvel says is much more like a mutant title than even they expected. Think of it as a new ***X-Men*** series set in the mutant's early days... *(Sep-Nov, $1.25)*

If you have oodles of poster space, check out the ***X-Men Door Poster***, reprinting the deluxe Jim Lee-Scott Williams poster from X-Men #1-E in an enormous 30" x 59" size. *(Oct, $15.95)*

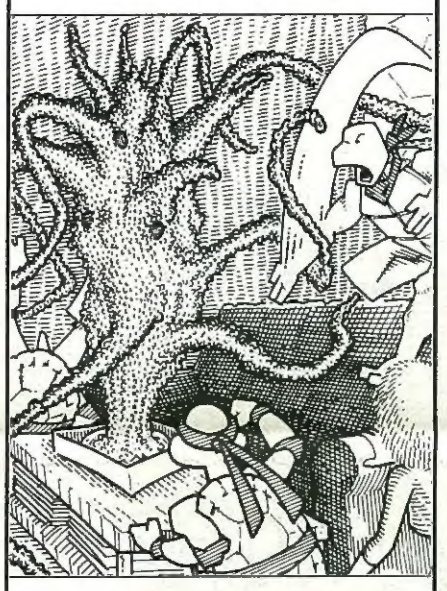
When ***Zhuangzi Speaks,*** Marvel hopes that fans listen... ***Zhuangzi Speaks*** is a strange 160-page comic book trade paperback that illustrates the teaching of Zhuang Zhou, a twenty-four hundred year old Eastern philosophy. Think of it as a ***Kung Fu*** comic without the martial arts... *(Oct, $9.95)*

Millennium

Anne Rice's The Witching Hour #1 kicks off a thirteen-issue adaptation of the horror novel by Rice, who is already familiar to comics fans because of her other horror tales that have been adapted into comics by Millennium and Innovation. John Bolton once again supplies the covers for an Anne Rice series, while Eagleson, Collins, and Martin adapt the tale of witchcraft. *(Nov, $2.50)*

It! The Terror From Beyond Space is credited by some as being the film that inspired Dan O'Bannon and Ridley Scott in their creation of ***Alien.*** You can judge for yourself just how similar the two stories are when Millennium brings ***It!*** to comic books in a four-issue adaptation this fall. *(Sep-Dec, $2.50)*

One of the first independent superhero titles, ***The Justice Machine,*** returns in a new three-issue limited series ***The Justice Machine: The Chimera Conspiracy.*** This new series pits the JM against two of their strongest enemies, who have joined forces to control the Machine's world. Adam Hughes supplies a special comic-within-a-comic retelling of the origin of the Justice Machine. *(Sep-Nov, $2.50)*



Mirage

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Time's Pipeline is a full-color one-shot by Larry Todd and Mark Bode that transplants the Turtles to a world inhabited by the fanciful creations of the late Vaughn Bode. Turtles meet Lizards in this strange tale... *(Sep, $2.95)* ***TMNT: Haunted Pizza*** is a Matt Howarth tale that pits the pizza-loving Turtles against a monster mushroom—or more specifically, a killer alien fungus named Ooh-Zah that winds up on the Turtles' pizza *(Oct, $2.25)*.

NEC

Battron's mercenary exploits span decades of 20th Century history; creator Wayne Vansant uses the exploits of this soldier-of-fortune to present fact-based stories scattered across the strife-torn history of the modern world in ***Battron.*** Vansant's artwork on ***The 'Nam*** has already established him as a premiere war artist; ***Battron*** enhances his reputation as a writer as well. *(Sep-Nov, $2.75)*

Now

Wonder what happened between ***Green Hornet Volume 1*** and ***Green Hornet Volume 2***? If you are, you can find the answers to your unspoken questions in ***Green Hornet: Solitary Sentinel #1,*** a three-issue limited series by Jim Van Hise, Sal Velluto, and Tony De Zuniga that explains just how Paul Reid became the hard-edged vigilante. *(Oct-Nov, $2.50)*

Kato of the Green Hornet II once again stars the Green Hornet's famous sidekick in solo action. This time, he agrees to protect a temperamental neo-racist rock star whose life has been threatened. Mike Baron and Val Mayerik, the creators of this series, are both quite adept at martial arts, so martial arts fans (like Charles Rutledge, writer of ***Drunken Fist*** and ***CSN*** reader) are sure to love it. *(Sep-Dec, $2.50)*

Parody

Parody Press has turned Image Comics spoofs into a cottage industry; this fall, they'll offer ***The Sewage Dragoon*** *(Sep, $2.50)*; ***Oldblood*** *(Sep, $2.50)*; and ***Yawn*** *(Sep, $2.50)*. Marvel isn't immune to parodizing, either, as ***Spineless-Man $2099 #1*** proves (Nov, $2.50).

If you've enjoyed Sam Kieth's work in the pages of ***Marvel Comics Presents***, then perhaps you'd like to sneak a peek at some of his earlier endeavors. ***Adolescent Radioactive Black Belt Hamsters: The Death of Bruce*** graphic novel reprints 120 pages of rarely-seen Kieth artwork, along with eight new pages of art and interview. *(Oct, $10.95)*

Piranha

After a year of regrouping following the replacement of Piranha's editorial staff, the avant-garde DC imprint returns with a new anthology format miniseries, ***Fast Forward***. Grant Morrison, Dave McKean, Andrew Helfer, Glenn Barr, David Quinn, and Alec Stevens are just a few of the contributors to this sophisticated series that takes readers "to places they'd never seen before." *(Nov, $4.95)*

Rubber Blanket Press

As the fall chill begins to set it, perhaps it's time to pull out the blankets. That's what Dave Mazzuchelli is doing...but in his case, it's a ***Rubber Blanket. Rubber Blanket #2***, the second annual edition of this avant-garde collection of comics work by the artist of Batman: Year One (as well as work by Richmond Lewis, David Hornung, and Ted Stearn), isn't a comic for everyone—but if you have an admiration for the experimental, then you should give it a try. *(Oct, $7.75)*

Skybox

Skybox's latest Marvel card series is ***Marvel Masterpieces Series I***, a deluxe 100-card series (with six special bonus cards of a hitherto-unrevealed nature) of upscale cards fully painted by acclaimed artist Joe Jusko. Unlike earlier Marvel series, Skybox is strictly limiting the total production run on this series to only 17,500 individually-numbered cases, with the cards targeted for comic shop distribution. These will undoubtedly by the rarest of all Marvel cards, so grab 'em while you can. *($1.50/pack)*

Slave Labor

No foreign government has ever done as much damage to the United States as one decorated American soldier did. The soldier was General Sherman, and his fiery march through Georgia left the state devastated for decades to come. ***Burnt Country*** presents the story of that march, told from the point of view of a foot soldier taking part in that March. It's the latest project from Jeff Kear, whose ***Relentless Pursuit*** detailed the plight of the Nez Perce Indians. *(Oct,-Nov, $4.95)*

Sun Comics

Sun continues to expand on its manga-translation line throughout the fall. Among their additions are ***High School Agent,*** a bi-weekly series about a reluctant secret agent and his teacher contact *(Sep-Nov, $2.50)*; ***Cosmo,*** the bi-weekly story of a photojournalist who discovers a race of intelligent cats on an off-limits island *(Oct-Nov, $2.50)*; and

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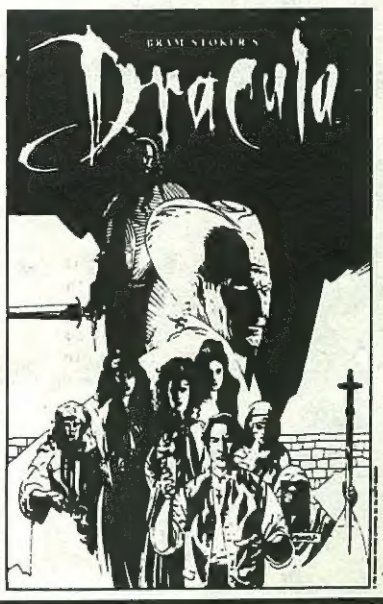
Mechanic Gemini, the monthly tale of two brothers who grew up as rivals—and now, as adults, they find themselves on opposing sides of an armed conflict *(Nov, $2.50).*

Topps

A major player enters the comics field this month; Topps has reputation built on decades of quality card products, and now they're bringing that reputation for quality to the comics field. Their first title, ***Bram Stoker's Dracula***, (based on the upcoming film by Francis Ford Coppola) brings together Roy Thomas, Mike Mignola, and John Nyberg to tell the story of the Lord of the Undead. Topps is polybagging this high-quality comic with special cards unavailable anywhere else. *(Oct-Nov, $2.95)*

WildCATs Trading Cards, the first series of Image Comics cards from Topps, features



one hundred cards (many of which feature all-new art done specifically for the series, while the remainder feature enhanced art from the first two issues of ***WildCATs***), as well as special prism cards. Among the guest artists contributing to the card series are Brian Bolland, Dale Keown, Jae lee, Sam Kieth, Mike Mignola, Joe Quesada, and Adam Hughes. *(Nov, $1.50/pack)*

Tundra

Julian Boisvert Volume One: Neekibo is the latest Tundra/Heavy Metal hardcover volume. This series by Dieter, Plessix, and Raborot follows the misadventures of French Cultural Affairs Attaché Julain Boisvert, who goes to Africa to bring culture to the world and discover adventure at the same time. When his plane crashes and leaves him stranded with the Fuldaabe tribe, though, he soon learns their lifestyle and discovers a new outlook on life. *(Sep, $14.95)*

There are few stories more appropriate for the Halloween season than Washington Irving's ***Legend of Sleepy Hollow***—so it's quite appropriate that Bo Hampton would complete his adaptation of that classic tale just in time for a fall release. Tundra is releasing the book in both hardcover and softcover. *(Sep, $6.95/$19.95)*

Taboo Volume Seven offers more of the material that a thinking horror fan can't do without: "Sweeney Todd" by Gaiman and Zulli, "From Hell" by Moore and Campbell, "Lost Girls" by Moore and Gebbie, and much, much more. *(Sep, $14.95)*

If you enjoyed Mark martin and Jim Woodring's ***Frank In the River,*** then you'll be thrilled to hear that the two are working together on a regular basis in the new series ***Tantalizing Tales. TT #1*** features new stories about Frank and Montgomery Wart. *(Oct, $2.25)*

Road Trip! That's the subject of ***White Trash,*** a new comic series by Rennie and Emond that follows a teenage metal-head and an overweight rocker on a cross-country journey to the modern American Mecca, Los Angeles. Their violent misadventures on the way make this dark comedy one of the most entertaining social commentaries ever produced for comics. *(Sep, $3.95)*

Valiant

Bloodshot is a new series by VanHook, Perlin, and Wiacek that grows out of the events recently depicted in ***Rai #0.*** Bloodshot was once a Mafia hired gun, but he's been rebuilt into a scientifically-enhanced, mind-controlled killer. The experiment doesn't go as planned, though, due to the interference of a Geomancer, and Bloodshot uses his microchip-enhanced abilities to hunt down the mobsters who betrayed him and the scientists who tried to rebuild him. ***Bloodshot #1*** also features a fold-out poster and a chromium-metalized cover by Barry Windsor-Smith. *(Nov, $3.50)*

If you've checked the back-issue prices on ***Harbinger*** recently, you've discovered that ***Harbinger #1*** has topped the $100 mark in many parts of the country, and continues to climb higher every week. If that's out of your range, then you'll be glad to hear that Valiant is reprinting the hard-to-find ***Harbinger #s*** 1-4 in a $9.95 ***Harbinger Trade Paperback*** this fall—and as a bonus, they're including a reprinting of ***Harbinger #0*** as well! (Nov, $9.95)

Valiant's first new post-Unity series of the fall is ***HARD Corps,*** which comes to you courtesy of David Michelinie, David Lapham, and Bob Layton. It's a hard-hitting series about a heavily-armed super-team strike force that makes SHIELD look like a bridge club... Jim Lee supplies the cover for the first issue. *(Sep, $2.50)*

Former comrades Solar and X-O Manowar face one another in combat in a two-part tale that begins in ***X-O Manowar #12*** and concludes in ***Solar, Man of the Atom #17.*** Before you know it, they're slugging it out on the moon, while the X-O armor begins to reproduce itself. *(Oct, $2.25@)*

Viz

Macross II simultaneously debuts in America as a videotape and a comic book. Viz is handling the comic book adaptation of the newest ***Macross*** series, following Earth's first encounter with a new alien race, the Maluduke. *(Sep-Nov, $2.75)*

Viz's new series of high-quality hardcover storybooks adapting the work of Hayao Miyazaki kicks off this fall with three 112-page volumes, all shot from animation cels: ***Kiki's Delivery Service, My Neighbor Totoro,*** and ***Laputa.*** *(Oct, $14.95@)*

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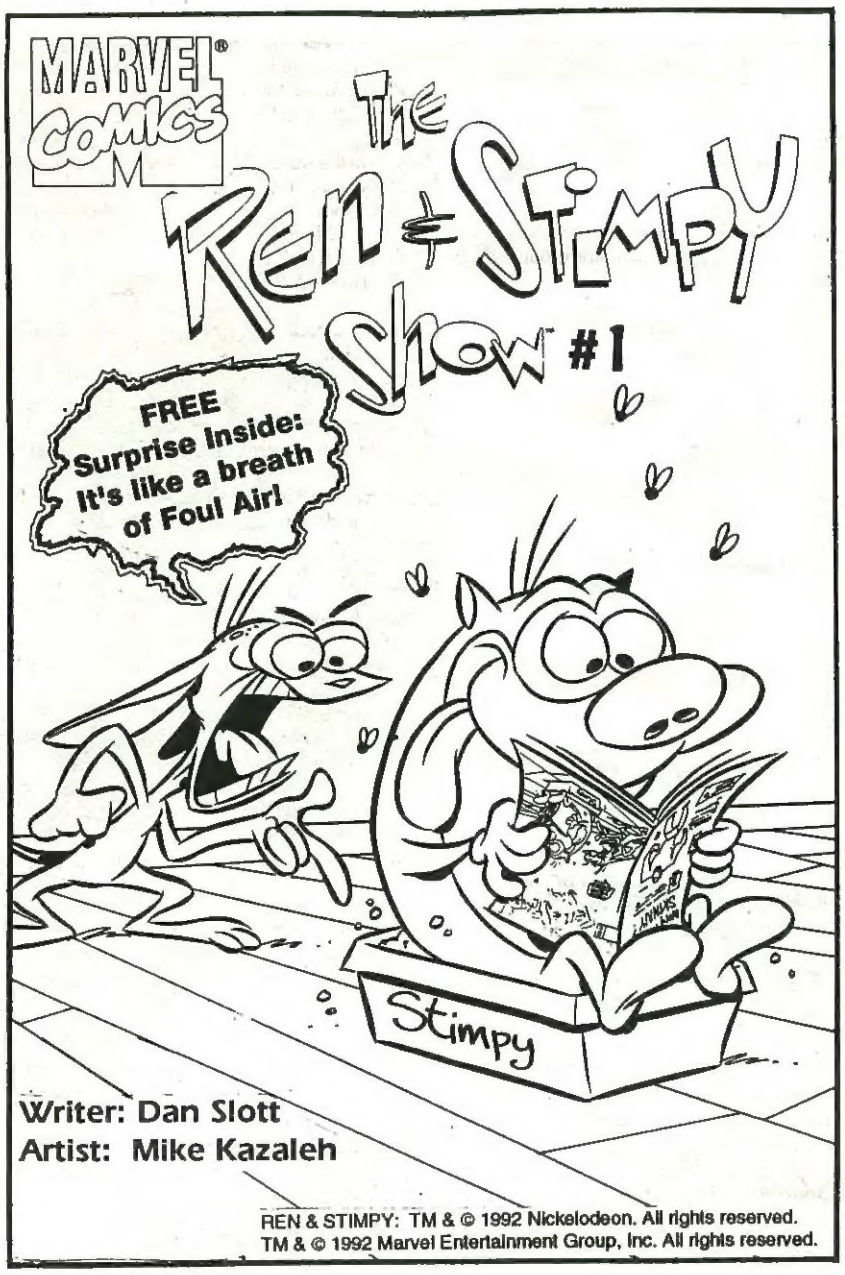
MARVEL COMICS
The Ren & Stimpy Show #1
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Stimpy
Writer: Dan Slott
Artist: Mike Kazaleh
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